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OUR CHRISTMAS GREETING.

For the twenty-fifth time we write our Christmas greeting and our most grateful acknowledgments. It is given to few—perhaps to no other one man in this state, so far as we know, to continue as editor of a country weekly successfully for a quarter century. Hence we write "grateful" acknowledgment—grateful to a kind Providence for continued health and ability to work, and to an host of kind and indulgent friends. We gratefully acknowledge indebtedness to both these magnanimous sources, without either one we could not have possibly succeeded.

Hence, we repeat our most grateful acknowledgments.

This 1922 Christmas finds our people in good condition financially. Compared with other sections, and particularly other countries our people have every reason in the world to return hearty thanks to a beneficent Providence for necessary and even innumerable blessings of every conceivable kind. As a matter of fact if there is lack of the necessities and comforts of life amongst us it is due in the majority of cases to improvidence or extravagance on our part—perhaps sin. At any rate we all may be thankful that we live, and particularly live in this great country of vast opportunities.

To all our readers we extend most hearty good wishes for a merry Christmas. In many homes there will be a vacant chair this glad day. It's former occupant has gone on before. Others are scattered "far and wide" in every state of the union, and across the seas.

To all these we send happy greetings. These "exiles" though absent are not forgotten, and will be remembered when the stockings are hung on Christmas night. Once more—A HAPPY CHRISTMAS GREETING!

THE POOL ROOM.

A move is on foot, according to reliable information, to establish a pool room, restaurant and barber shop in the hotel. There will be a good deal of discussion, pro and con, fore and aft to speak. Some of the best citizens, who have expressed themselves, see no objection to a pool room properly conducted, under proper restrictions. The point is made that the town of North Tazewell has a billiard room which is conducted in an entirely proper and unobjectionable manner, a room where ladies can visit at any time with propriety. Why not such a room in this town? There are bridge parties, poker parties, Ford and bootleg parties, and a neat properly conducted billiard parlor might easily supplant some of the more objectionable amusements. The young men and boys have no place of resort at night except the street. A Y. M. C. A. was tried, failed, even the Laymans club has gone the way of all the rest. Try a billiard room, and if it becomes a nuisance it can be closed up. What is your opinion on the subject?

THIS HAPPENED IN THIS TOWN—AND ELSEWHERE.

A woman went to the post office, bought a post office order for \$5.00 sent it to a mail order house for certain goods. She proceeded down town, visited two of the stores, bought quite a bill at each place, said to the merchants, "just charge the bill." The bills were charged and carried on the books for 12 months. If there is anything fair or even honest in such proceeding, we fail to see it. There could only be one possible excuse for such disloyalty, either that the goods wanted could not be found in Tazewell, or the prices asked were exorbitant. It requires a good nerve, or is it only thoughtlessness, to ask a merchant to credit you, and at the same time send cash to the out-of-town merchant. Let's stop it!

TRY THE FORMULA.

Dr. Emile Cou, the distinguished French physician, is curing people of all sorts of disease by suggestion and auto-suggestion. Be anything, have anything you need if only you believe in it. "Every day in every way, I am getting better and better," is the slogan. Repeat this formula many times a day, and you will see results. Doesn't the Good book say, "as a man thinketh in his heart so is he." Try the formula.

The United States demands that the doors of the world shall be open to us, and sits on the front porch with a shotgun, warning every other nation to keep out, even Canada.

We used to laugh at Darwin theory that man were descendants of monkeys, but in these latter days the doctrine of evolution is tearing the churches to pieces. Men seem not only ready but anxious to believe, that they evolved from monkeys.

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH THE KU KLUX?

Every newspaper, secular, political and religious, that comes to this office, and many others that do not "jump on" the Ku Klux. The points of attack seems to be, that it is a secret organization, discriminates against certain classes of religionists, interferes with enforcement of the law, and the latest development is that it is a regular grafting machine, charging extortionate prices—\$10.00 for membership fee, etc., etc.

We hold no brief whatever for the K. K. K. but in all candor we do not see that the points of criticism hurled at the order are all well taken. The Klan is a secret organization, to be sure, so is the Masonic fraternity and every other fraternal and benevolent organization, we believe. As to discrimination against Jews and Catholics we think the Klan has the right to say who shall and shall not be a member of the order, as do all other organizations, at the same time the order is carrying its devotion to pure Americanism, a little too far. The other orders, we believe all of them, require candidates to subscribe to some belief in religions, tenets.

The charge of "graft" may be made similarly against any number of orders. The American Federation of Labor and other orders, levy taxes on their members, pay their officers large salaries and pile up money. So this and other objections seem not well founded. So far as our knowledge extends no charge of an unlawful character has been laid at the door of the Klan.

In the final analysis, the existence of the Klan may be due to the failure or inability of our criminal laws. Take one case. In a certain community lived a man with a fine wife and a family of happy children. He became infatuated with a disreputable woman in another community, left his family for the other woman. One night, like a lot of ghosts, a few white clad men rode through this man's town, proceeded to the cemetery, shaped up a grave, put a board at the head with this repentant husband's name on the board, and just beneath the name the sentence, "Your move next," and departed as silently as they came. Next day, a neighbor visited the cemetery, saw the grave, etc. and informed the wayward husband. The next night he was home with his family, and has been ever since. Here was one case outside the law. A divorce could have been granted but the home broken up. There are hundreds of instances of similar interpositions of the Klan where the laws of the land failed to reach or correct. Still all this may not justify the existence of the Klan.

CAPTAIN SANTA CLAUS.

If I were ever a Captain I'd like to be like him. With never a sword, except of wood, and never a look that's grim; Never a drum but toy ones, and never a trumpet to blow. Except of tin as away with a grin, over the world I'd go, Leading little children, and wandering here and there To heal the heart of an aching age and smooth the wrinkles of care!

Now, what are wars to a Captain like that, I'd have you tell! And what are swords and muskets and what are shot and shell! For he does not need to use them, but ever he conquers men. And sets them straight, keeps them true, gives them gladness again, With naught but the power of beauty in love and peace to bring. The tender rays of heavenly ways that leave no hurt or sting!

Each year he comes with an army of cheer, laughter and song, And the little children follow, and and the army grows so strong; Till, hopping, skipping and jumping it reaches before and behind The farthest temples of fancy that burn in human mind. Till it comes out somewhere distant of sun and moon and the sea That sings away on Christmas day at the foot of the Xmas tree. —Bentztown Bard in Baltimore Sun.

"WE KNOW HIM."

(Youths Companion.)

A white colporteur once visited a part of central China into which to that best of his knowledge no white missionary had ever penetrated. Gathering a big crowd of Chinese round him in one of the towns, he began to read to them from the New Testament in Chinese. He read the story of Jesus's healing a blind man and also of his healing a lame man. Then he read of his healing lepers, like the lepers that crowded the streets of the town; whereupon the faces of the people lighted up.

"Oh, we know him!" they cried. "He used to live here. Our mothers and fathers have told us about him. He lived in a house down the street. We know where he is buried. His grave is here; we will show it to you, teacher. When the great plague came the rest left us, but he would not leave us. He gave us strange things out of a bottle. We took the things and were better. We had babies; they were blind. He washed their eyes and made them well; they could see. Oh, we know him very well! He has often walked down our streets and spoken to us when we were little."

"No, that could not be!" said the colporteur. "He lived in a land far, far from here. He belonged to a different nationality."

"No, sir," they insisted. "You are mistaken. He was right here. Come and we will show you the grave!" He went and saw the grave and its inscription, which was in English. He looked up the history of the town and



IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

Several years ago the editor of the New York Sun received a letter from a little girl asking him if there is a Santa Claus. His answer at once became a Christmas classic, and thousands of requests are made each year for its reproduction, which follows:

"We take pleasure in answering at once and thus promulgating the communication below, expressing at the same time our gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the Sun:

"Dear Editor:—I am eight years old. Some of my friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says if you see it in the Sun it's so. Please tell me the truth. Where is Santa Claus? VIRGINIA O'HANLAN. 115 West Ninety-fifth St.

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virgin-

ia whether they be mens or children, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant in his intellect as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by his intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certain as life and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there was no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginia. There would be no childhood faith, though no poetry, no proverb, no lovely tolerance this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight and the material light with which childhood faith in the world would be extinguished.

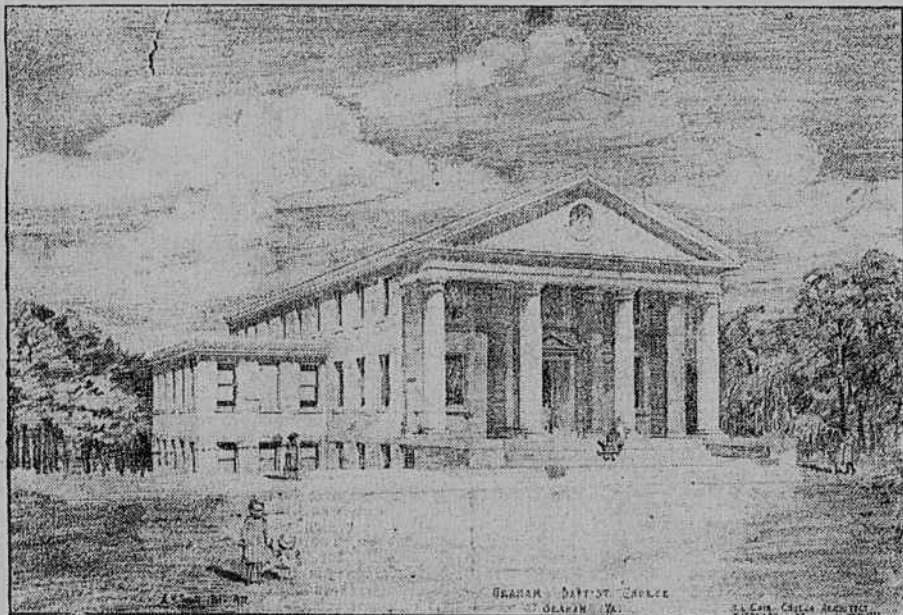
"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that

prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not. But that's no proof they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else more real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and he lives for ever. A thousand years from now, Virginia; nay ten times ten thousand years from now he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

Graham's New Baptist Church and Its Pastor.



REV. M. O. ALEXANDER.

learned that the man whom the people had spoken of was a British volunteer, a young doctor who had just completed his medical course, who had gone up the Yangtze River a hundred miles and, breaking into the central and northerly interior, had settled in the little town. The plague at last had taken his life.

And away out there years after when the people heard the words about Christ they called out. "We knew him! He lived here! We knew him well!"

Weather forecast: "Bananas, this season are wearing heavier skins, indicating an early fall."

Decorator to newly rich. "We have finished the drawing room, madam."

Mrs. Newly Rich: "You can paper the study on Friday."

Decorator: "And what shall we do in the interim?"

Mrs. N. R.: "You can paper that, too."

There are considerable youngsters in Nottingham as most people know. A little boy whose grandmother had just died wrote the following letter, which he duly posted:

"Dear Angels: We have sent you grandma. Please give her a harp to play as she is short winded and can't blow a trumpet."

Western Exchange: "Mary's wedding gown was of white georgette trimmed with silver princess lace, and she carried a bouquet of white orchids, sardines, and lilies of the valley."

Since 1918 prices have dropped 10 times and gone up 11.

It's a sad world. You go into a garage with your engine missing; and when you come out your tools are gone.

We know a wise guy, who bought a hundred thousand German Marks, and deposited them at interest in a Berlin Savings Bank. Last week he got word that the bank had stopped paying him interest, and gone to charging him storage.

War Savings Stamps

What have you done with your War Saving Stamps? They are due the first of January. Bring them to us NOW and we will put them in line for payment so that you may have the money by the first.

Called Victory Bonds—we will send them in for you.

GOLD FOR XMAS

We have gold and will be glad to supply you, but we do not recommend gold as a gift. Give the young folks a Savings Bank Book with a deposit entered on it. Such will be seed sown in good ground.

Farmers National Bank

AARON RUSS, Cashier



WANTED FOR

Xmas And New Year

We are making extensive preparations for the premier markets of the year—Christmas and New Year. As predicted prices for Thanksgiving were high, selling from 50 to 60 cents a pound. Did you Poultry Dealers, Farmers and Shippers realize this price elsewhere? Some may quote higher prices to get your produce but me dear friends it is not quotations or fancy promises which puts the cold cash into your hands but ACTUAL RESULTS. Compare our Reputation, Service and Prices obtained with all, you will then be convinced Philadelphia is the highest and most profitable market, and Frank Hellerick & Co the house to receive my shipment.

Positively ship ONLY turkeys for Christmas—your mixed poultry, chickens, ducks, and geese will sell higher New Year. If you have to ship mixed poultry pack and mark it separately.

We are Receivers for a Trade of over two million happy and prosperous people. Our Plant extends thru an entire city block which is a veritable stream of BUYERS bidding for their goods. We are bound to have wonderful Christmas and New Year market. Our Sales and Accountancy departments are ever alert and on the job, financial rating unquestionable—what more could you ask? You want top prices, then ship to F. H. the most widely known poultry House in Philadelphia. Have your dressed poultry any quantity arrive December 20 to 23 for Christmas, 26 to 30 for New Year.

Frank Hellerick & Co.

"A poultry house every day in the year"

349 New Market St. 120 Callowhill St. Philadelphia, Pa.

Slenderize Your Figure



THE COMFORT BRASSIERE is constructed of specially mercerized corset material, scientifically boned to induce a muscular reflex, which will reduce the fatty tissues, weight and bulk. It is adjustable to fit perfectly, and will not ride-up over the corset.

Gives the Figure a Trim Straight Line Appearance Supports, Flattens and Reduces the Bust Prevents Bulging of the Diaphragm Gives the Proper Abdominal Support Adds Carriage to the Figure Makes You Appear 10 to 20 lbs. Lighter

The Comfort Corset Brassiere outlasts a dozen ordinary brassieres and will retain its shaping after long wear and repeated washing.

Prices \$1.00, \$2.00, \$3.00, \$4.00

JEFF WARD, The Big Store